



## **First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the Single State and Territory Points of Contact (SPOCs) – June 15, 2015**

### **FirstNet News**

- Tomorrow, FirstNet Acting Executive Director TJ Kennedy will testify before the House Energy and Commerce Committee's communications and technology subcommittee at 2 pm EDT in room 2123 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The hearing will be available over webcast on the Committee's website. The hearing will be an opportunity to highlight the progress FirstNet has made and discuss our priorities and path forward with the subcommittee, including consultation and the acquisition process. FirstNet also looks forward to answering any questions the members may have on various issues related to the deployment of the network and the FirstNet organization. For more information, please see: <http://energycommerce.house.gov/press-release/subcommittee-continue-oversight-firstnet-build-out-%E2%80%93-nationwide-public-safety-network>
- Initial consultation meetings took place in three states last week: New Hampshire, New Mexico and Ohio, bringing the total to 34 consultation meetings to date. This week, FirstNet will conduct the initial consultations in Vermont, Kansas and Wisconsin.
- Last week, FirstNet participated in the Telecommunications Association of the Southeast (TASE) Summer Symposium, the National Council of State Telecomm Association Executives (NCSTAE), the 2015 Tribal Public Health Emergency Preparedness Conference (with Tribal Working Group member Michael Bird [Kewa and Ohkay Owingeh Pueblos] and Washington OneNet state planning team member Shelley Westall), the Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition Summit (with Tribal Working Group member Randell Harris [Tlingit]), the National Homeland Security Conference, the Montana State Fire Chiefs Association and the New York State Broadband Symposium.
- This week, FirstNet will participate in the Customs and Border Protection Initial Consultation Pilot, the New York State Wireless Forum, the Telecommunications Association of Michigan ComPulse Annual Convention, the 2015 Arkansas Interoperability Conference and the Department of Justice Data Collection Pilot.
- To date, FirstNet has received 52 of 56 completed consultation checklists. Confirmed upcoming initial consultation meetings are: Vermont (6/16), Kansas (6/17),

Wisconsin (6/18), North Dakota (7/9), Illinois (7/14), Alabama (7/15), Georgia (7/21), California (7/28-29), Tennessee (7/23), Pennsylvania (8/4), Hawaii (8/11-12), American Samoa (8/13-14), Indiana (8/26), Michigan (9/1), New Jersey (9/3) and Alaska (9/9). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).

- The following public safety subject matter expert positions are now posted on [USAjobs.com](#). The positions close on June 16.

- Emergency Management Specialist (Emergency Medical Services) (ZP-0089-04)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Location: Negotiable After Selection, United States

DHA vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0150](#)

- Emergency Management Specialist (911) (ZP-0089-04)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Location: Negotiable After Selection, United States

DHA vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0151](#)

- Emergency Management Specialist (Fire) (ZP-0089-04)

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Location: Negotiable After Selection, United States

DHA vacancy announcement: [NTIA-FRNA-2015-0156](#)

### **From the PSAC and States/Territories**

- Congratulations to Iowa SPOC Tom Lampe on receiving the 2015 Broadband Hero Award for his leadership in Iowa's FirstNet efforts!

### **Media Watch**

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#### *Traditional Media*

Media coverage this week included articles on a wide variety of topics including state opt-out strategies, DHS coordination with FirstNet, rural broadband access, and the upcoming congressional hearing. The Iowa SPOC was recognized by the Governor for his work on FirstNet, and this led to several stories from local press and public safety trade publications.

#### **Urgent Communications: Opt-out Scenarios from FirstNet Appear Increasingly Tough for States, Territories**

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/opt-out-scenarios-firstnet-appear-increasingly-tough-states-territories>

Many states and territories are exploring the opt-out alternative to being part of FirstNet, which would require them to build out the radio access network (RAN) in their jurisdictions. However, the risks associated with opt-out logistical issues, financial implications and potential political fallout may outweigh potential benefits to the governors making the decisions.

#### **Fierce Mobile Government: DHS Officials Tout Resilient Communications, Capabilities Under Proposed FirstNet System**

<http://www.fiercemobilegovernment.com/story/dhs-officials-tout-resilient-communications-capabilities-under-proposed-fir/2015-06-10>

While the multibillion-dollar development of a wireless broadband network for first responders, known as FirstNet, promises to bring interoperable communications to public safety organizations nationwide, Homeland Security Department officials recently touted how the potential capabilities and features will benefit them.

#### **Radio Resource: Iowa's FirstNet SPOC Honored for Comprehensive Outreach**

[http://www.radioresourcemag.com/newsArticle.cfm?news\\_id=12210](http://www.radioresourcemag.com/newsArticle.cfm?news_id=12210)

Connect Iowa, in collaboration with Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB), recognized Thomas Lampe. Related Link:

<http://www.connectednation.org/BlogPost/iowa%E2%80%99s-firstnet-spoc-recognized-connect-iowa-broadband-hero>

### **The Des Moines Register-IA: FirstNet Completes a Full Grassley**

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/tech/2015/06/11/firstnet-phase-one-first-responder-network/71080764/>

FirstNet, a \$7 billion federal effort to set up a dedicated communications network for first responders, has completed a full Grassley of sorts.

#### *Web and Social Media*

There has been a steady increase in the use of FirstNet social media communications channels. The Ohio consultation meeting received considerable attention over social media. The FirstNet Twitter account now has 2,289 followers; LinkedIn 769 users; Google+ 47 users; and YouTube 120 subscribers. This week we posted blog entries on the Arkansas Consultation Meeting; a video tutorial on PSCR's work on Quality of Service; and a statement congratulating Iowa SPOC Thomas Lampe for receiving an award from the Governor for his work on FirstNet. Blogs are located at:

<http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>